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# News Release



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Schedules Open House in Pahrump**

**Pahrump, NV...**The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office will be holding an open house, Tuesday, September 19, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Pahrump Library, 701 East Street, Pahrump, NV, to provide an update on the status of the Pahrump Valley Short-Term Desert Tortoise Habitat Conservation Plan ( Pahrump Valley HCP). The Pahrump Valley HCP is being developed to support an application from Nye County for an incidental take permit for the threatened desert tortoise in the Pahrump Valley.

An incidental take permit is required when an activity on non-federal land may result in the take (killing or harming) of a federally listed species. The accompanying HCP is developed to ensure that the effects of issuing the permit are adequately minimized or mitigated. The Pahrump Valley HCP is being proposed as a “low effect” plan which means the covered activities in the plan will have minor effects on the desert tortoise; will have a minor effect on other environmental resources; and the actions, when considered together, will not be significant.

A longer-term and a more comprehensive plan, the Southern Nye County Long-Term Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan is also being developed. It will focus on a broad planning area throughout the range of the desert tortoise in southern Nye County. This plan will likely include additional species and habitats. Public scoping for this plan is expected to begin later this fall.

For more information on the meeting and the plans, contact Jeri Krueger at (702) 515-5230.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 95-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, which encompasses 545 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 69 national fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resources offices and 81 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign and Native American tribal governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Assistance program, which distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

